



Illustration by Larry Albers; From
The Status of Dakota Wild Buckwheat
(*Eriogonum visheri* A. Nels).

ERIOGONUM VISHERI **VISHER'S BUCKWHEAT**

Visher's Buckwheat is an erect, highly-branched annual, 5-50 cm tall, arising from a slender taproot. The basal leaves have oval to round blades, 1-2.5 cm long and nearly as long as wide, green and mostly hairless, with slender petioles, 1-3 cm long. A single flowering stem rises 2-4 cm before dividing into 2 or 3 branches, each of which continue to branch dichotomously to form an open inflorescence. A few small leaves, otherwise similar to the basal leaves, are at the lower nodes of the inflorescence. Small yellow flowers are sessile or arise on slender stalks from the involucres that are borne in the branch axils. Each flower produces a single dark brown, long beaked achene, 2.5-3 mm long. Flowering in late June - July.

The annual habit, open branching pattern, basal rosette of leaves and tiny yellow flowers are distinguishing characters. Of the other annual species, *ERIOGONUM ANNUUM* lacks a basal rosette, and *E. CERNUUM* has strongly reflexed involucral peduncles.